



MONTANA STATE PRISON HEALTH SERVICES OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE

Procedure No.: MSP HS B-01.1	Subject: STANDARD PRECAUTIONS
Reference: NCCHC Standard P-B-01, 2014	Page 1 of 1 and no attachments
Effective Date: November 1, 2010	Revised: June 1, 2017
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I. PURPOSE

To ensure infirmity health care staff maintain strict adherence to universal precautions to minimize the risk of exposure to blood and body fluids of inmate patients.

II. DEFINITIONS

Standard Precaution – work practices which require everyone to assume that all blood and body substances are potential sources of infection, independent of perceived risk.

III. PROCEDURE

A. General Requirements

1. All health care employees will observe standard precautions to prevent contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials.
2. All health care employees will observe standard precautions under circumstances in which differentiation between body fluid types is difficult or impossible; all body fluids will be considered potentially infectious materials.
3. All health care employees will consider all patients as potentially infected with bloodborne pathogens and follow infection control precautions intended to minimize the risk of exposure to blood and certain other body fluids. All health care employees will wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when a risk of exposure is present.
4. Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be made available. PPE is meant to reduce the risks of exposure, however it may not eliminate it. All health care employees must remove PPE prior to leaving the work area. All health care employees must replace PPE when it is damaged or contaminated.

IV. CLOSING

Questions concerning this operational procedure will be directed to the Health Services Manager.

V. ATTACHMENTS

none